

August 30, 2026

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Volume 38 Issue 35



Justice Is Not Revenge

OUR ELDERS:

Dan Cottrell

John Cottrell

Clint Oppermann

Jeff Rhodes

OUR DEACONS:

Joe Burns

Steve Ellis

Jon Ferrie

Ryan Haedger

Matt Lyndoe

Blake McDaniel

Mike Pope

Trey Post

Marv Sowell

Tony Tucker

Thomas Waggoner

Daniel Winkler

OUR STAFF:

Freddie Klein - Minister

Cy Warren - Youth

Mary Grace Warren - Office

Romans 13 gives us a remarkably high view of civil government. Paul says that governing authorities have been appointed by God, that they are "God's servant for your good," and that they bear the sword to bring punishment upon the wrongdoer (Romans 13:1-4). Government exists, in part, to restrain evil and administer justice.

But this raises an important ethical question: What is the difference between justice and revenge?

Revenge is personal. Justice is impartial. Revenge says, "You hurt me, so I will hurt you." Justice says, "A wrong has been committed, and the wrongdoer should be held accountable." Revenge is driven by anger and vindictiveness; justice seeks a proper and proportionate response to wrongdoing.

This distinction helps explain Paul's command in Romans 12:19: "Never take your own revenge, beloved, but leave room for the wrath of God." Paul is not saying that wrongdoing should never be punished. In the very next chapter, he explains that God has entrusted civil rulers with authority to punish evil (Romans 13:4). This means Christians do not have to choose between forgiveness and justice. We can refuse personal vengeance while legitimately seeking justice through lawful authorities. Peter likewise instructs Christians to submit to governing authorities "for the punishment of evildoers and the praise of those who do right" (1 Peter 2:13-14).

Justice also explains why impartiality matters. A law that is enforced against one person but ignored for another is no longer functioning as justice. Government does good when it faithfully applies righteous standards without favoritism. Christians should never become people of revenge. But neither should we become indifferent to justice. We surrender vengeance to God while trusting the authorities He has established to punish wrongdoing fairly and protect society from evil.

- Freddie Klein

AM - Free to Receive, Costly to Proclaim - Acts 13:38-41

Children's Bible Time: Front of Auditorium at 12PM

PM - Why Must I Be Holy? - Colossians 3:12-13

Read the Bible in 1 Year:

Sunday - Psalm 132-134, 1 Corinthians 11:17-34; **Monday** - Psalm 135-136, 1 Corinthians 12; **Tuesday** - Psalm 137-139, 1 Corinthians 13; **Wednesday** - Psalm 140-142, 1 Corinthians 14:1-2; **Thursday** - Psalm 143-145, 1 Corinthians 14:21-40; **Friday** - Psalm 146-147, 1 Corinthians 15:1-28; **Saturday** - Psalm 149-150, 1 Corinthians 15:29-58

office@southernhills.net

PRAYER LIST and ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER LIST

Beth Breeden is in need of prayer. Please pray for her comfort and peace during this time.

Please pray for **Joe Cottrell**. Pray for healing, strength, and comfort as he recovers.

Pray for **Mary Frances**, a small girl recovering from a near drowning accident. Pray for her to be able to go home soon.

Please keep **Tonia Pyburn's family and friends** in your prayers as they grieve her passing. Tonia, a dear friend of Jana Hall McCullough, courageously battled cancer. Please pray for comfort, peace, and strength for all those who knew and loved her.

Continue to Remember:

Ralph Hogg, Dave Sweeney, Bill & Wilma Davis, Jim Duty, Joanne Hallford, Beverly Jenkins, Tina Kelso, Richard King, Janice Martin, John & Melba Sims, Jimmy Smithson, Bobbie Wilhoite, Bert Woodroof, Mickey Petty, Kyle Labore, Margret Douglass, Meagan Luczak, Katy Wall and Billie Rutledge

Our Shut-ins: Patricia Marsh

VISITORS: Please fill out a card from the back of the pew in front of you and place it in the collection plate so we may have a record of your attendance. 

Online Giving Instructions

Online:

<https://donate.stripe.com/6oEcQKgAla0HczS000>

App:

Lightpost App



THOSE TO SERVE

TODAY - SUNDAY

Ushers: Steve Ellis, John Cottrell

Song Leader: Cy Warren

Reader and Opening Prayer: Gabe McDuffee

Scripture: Acts 13:38-41

Preside at Lord's Table: Clint Oppermann

Serve the Lord's Supper: Bryan Breeden, Kyle Richardson, Mike Pope, Jon Ferrie

Closing Prayer: Ron Read

Nursery Attendants: Jeri Oppermann, Cheryl Pope

TODAY'S EVENING SERVICE

Song Leader: Cy Warren

Opening Prayer: Ryan Haedge

Preside at Lord's Table: Jon Ferrie

Closing Prayer: Marv Sowell

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2026

Devotional Speaker: Dan Cottrell

Song Leader: Cy Warren

Opening Prayer: Blake McDaniel

Closing Prayer: Bryan Breeden

Sound for 8/30 Week: Marshall Post

Projector for 8/30 Week: David Broome

THE RECORD

Last Sunday (8/23/2026)

Morning Worship: 130

Sunday School: 100

Contribution Last

Sunday: \$10,430.00

Contribution YTD: \$359,876.00

Contribution Goal YTD: \$357,000.00

PREPARE COMMUNION - SEPTEMBER

David & Sharon Broome

COLLECT COMMUNION CUPS - SEPTEMBER

David & Sharon Broome

BUILDING LOCK-UP - SEPTEMBER

Deacons

MONTHLY ELDER CHAIRMAN - SEPTEMBER

John Cottrell

ANNOUNCEMENTS and UPCOMING EVENTS

Please contact the church office to schedule an event.

office@southernhills.net

UPCOMING EVENTS

Church Wide

Today - Fifth Sunday,

Youth Devo

Sep 12 - Bible Bowl

Sep 19 - Ladies Day

Congratulations

Join us in congratulating Dietlinde and Raymond Spears on their 65th wedding anniversary, September 1st!

Fifth Sunday

We will have our fifth Sunday schedule today. Our AM Worship and Bible class will be at their normally appointed times, followed by a potluck meal at 11:00 a.m. and afternoon worship service at noon. There will be no 5:00 p.m. worship service.

Ladies Day

This years Ladies Day will be September 19th at 9am. Brunch will be served. Please RSVP by using the sign up sheet in the foyer, or by contacting the church office or Linda Cottrell.

Ladies Bible Class

We will be starting Ladies Bible Class on September 2nd. The class will meet every Wednesday at 10:00 a.m.

This fall, we will be studying Ruth and Judges. If you are unable to attend, Jessica will be sending out notes from each class so you can follow along from home.

First Semester Study:

Appointed: Rising to Your Spiritual Potential, along with Padfield Study Guides for Judges and Ruth.

Second Semester Study:

Perfected: God's Best Reserved for You, along with the Padfield Study Guide for Hebrews.

If you have any questions, please contact Jessica Burns or the Church Office.

Franktown

A sign-up sheet for Franktown is available in the foyer. We invite you to consider signing up for this meaningful opportunity to serve our community.

MISSIONS MEMO...

World Christian Broadcasting • Franklin, TN

World Christian Broadcasting is a non-profit organization supported by concerned Christians whose purpose is to take God's Word—through mass media—to people who may have no other means of hearing the Good News.

Our official Mission Statement: "World Christian Broadcasting exists so that people in places best served by broadcast media become aware of the Good News of Jesus Christ and want to know more."

The message of God is relevant to all time, yet the ways that message is delivered must stay current. World Christian Broadcasting's international shortwave broadcasting communicates the Good News to millions every day. KNLS, located at the top of the world in Anchor Point, Alaska, has been on the air since 1983.

A new station, located on the island of Madagascar in the Indian Ocean, has produced tremendous positive feedback helping spread the Gospel around the globe. In addition, each of our seven languages offers its own website, so that people out of broadcast range can still read important, life-giving messages.

Through these shortwave transmissions, we can blanket virtually the entire inhabited world. By speaking in people's own language, forming friendships, and creating bonds of trust, World Christian Broadcasting sparks hope, interest, and curiosity among listeners. Programming encourages a personal study of the message of Jesus. By the grace of God and the technology He provides, many will hear the Good News, perhaps for the first time, and respond to the life-changing invitation of Jesus.

Thank you so much for helping us share our mission. We're passionate about sharing the love of Jesus and the Bible with people everywhere on our planet. Our journey began with a simple idea: to utilize shortwave radio to connect hearts around the globe. Thank you, Southern Hills, for joining us in this wonderful adventure of faith!



UPCOMING EVENTS



Today - Youth Devo at 5pm at the Pope's house. If you want to ride the bus please be at the building at 4:30pm

September 12 - Bible Bowl

We are very excited for Bible Bowl this year! The theme this year is Genesis 26 - 50. Let Cy Warren or Beth Lincoln know if you are interested in participating this year.

October 2 - Lock-Out with Concord Road

Bible Bowl Practice Schedule

08/30 - No practice due to Fifth Sunday

09/02 - Genesis 46-50

09/06 - No practice due to Labor day

09/09 - Full review for Bible Bowl



TBD - Family Devo and Picnic

TIMES SERVICES

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP - 9 AM
BIBLE CLASS - 10 AM

SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP - 5 PM

WEDNESDAY EVENING SERVICE - 6 PM
Classes for all ages

Southern Hills Church of Christ
2508 Goose Creek Bypass
Franklin, TN 37064